

TEAC Votes 11-9 in Favor of School Camping Program

Police Nab Seven in Hot-Rod Crack-Down

Seven hot-rod drivers were given stiff fines—some jail sentences, after Torrance police nabbed a group of out-towners last week who were holding impromptu races on Sepulveda boulevard between Hawthorne boulevard and the Redondo Beach City Line.

Charged with aiding, abetting, or engaging in a speed contest, four of the seven paid \$25 fines while the remaining three served jail sentences.

The "raid" by police on the hot-rodgers last Thursday night marked the second such "crack-down" in two weeks.

One driver, arrested the week previous was sentenced to 15 days in jail.

Police believe "the word has gotten around" among the racing clan and that the group will seek a new "course" elsewhere.

Kiwanis to Host 15 Clubs Tuesday Night

The Torrance Kiwanis Club will be host to fifteen other Kiwanis Clubs in this area next Tuesday night, May 17, at a dinner in the Torrance Civic Auditorium.

With approximately 500 tickets sold today, this will be one of the largest meetings of its kind ever held in the history of Kiwanis in California, according to Dr. Howard A. Wood, president of the Torrance Club.

Special guests of honor will be Governor and Mrs. H. Park Arnold of the California-Nevada district of Kiwanis International. This will mark the first time a governor of this district of Kiwanis International has ever paid an official visit to Torrance.

In addition to the presidents of each of the sixteen clubs participating in the meeting there will be other high officials of Kiwanis International including Lt. Governor Ernest J. Loebbecke of Division One, of which Torrance is a part.

The speaker of the evening will be Past-Governor of California-Nevada District, Dr. C. Norman Abbott, of Ontario, who will deliver a talk of special interest to the ladies, "What We Owe to the Women of Kiwanis."

The Kiwanis Clubs participating with Torrance in staging this affair are those from Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, San Pedro, Wilshire, El Segundo, Wilmington, Miracle Mile, University Park, Angeleno Mesa, South Los Angeles, Gardena Valley, Lomita, South Los Angeles and Inglewood.

Non-employers Urged to Join New Council

Non-employers, professional men and property owners are being asked to support the newly organized Harbor Area Employers' Council in its efforts to bring about permanent labor peace in the Harbor district, according to Frank S. Selover, Employers' Council executive secretary.

He said that provision was made in the constitution and by-laws of the non-profit corporation for associate memberships (limited to non-employers) because many citizens in this category had expressed a desire to help the work of the council.

Doctors, attorneys, real estate brokers, insurance men, and others are being urged to lend their support to the movement undertaken by the Employers' Council to end the labor strife which has rocked the harbor district for years, according to Selover.

College Little Theater Group Wins Top Award

El Camino College won first in two of the three possible award classifications in a theatrical competition of one-act plays held on April 28th in Glendale under the sponsorship of the Little Theatre of Verdugo Hills with their production of "The Valiant" by Holworthy Hall & Robert Middlemass.

El Camino's Little Theater group won first prize of \$50 for the best presentation and Bill Flatley, El Camino actor, won a trophy for the best acting performance. Members of the college cast consisted of Bill Flatley, Dave Cunningham, Bob Schofield, Jack Hoover, and Morna Gahlbeck.

The production was directed by Gordon Orme, faculty sponsor and Bill Flatley, student director.

Many Decline to Vote After Long Debate on Camp Project

Should the Torrance City School Board allocate \$4500 from school operating funds to help defray the expenses of sending all sixth grade pupils (estimated at 300) to camp for one week during the nine months period beginning Sept. 12, or should this money be used for other purposes, such as helping to finance the construction of school cafeterias?

These were the questions debated at length yesterday by some forty members of the Torrance Educational Advisory Council during a three-hour luncheon session at Daniels Cafe. A show of hands, requested by Moderator and School Board Member Grace Wright, at the close of the long discussion, indicated 11 votes in favor of the camping project, 9 opposed to it, and the other half of those at the session, non-committed.

The meeting was opened by a talk by Holley Ashcraft, director of recreation at the Long Beach City Schools, strongly endorsing the camping idea. He exhibited colored slides depicting a typical outing of school children at the Long Beach school Camp Hi-Hill in the San Bernardino Mountains. Principal advantages enumerated by Director Ashcraft included: improved teaching methods in which youngsters learn by doing, opportunities of teaching democratic social living, healthful living outdoors, self responsibility for living, group and individual safety, nature study, conservation, fire prevention, development of hobbies and recreational skills including swimming, and the spiritual value of camp fire discussions. A motion picture of school camping activities at Camp Cuyamaca operated by the San Diego City and County Schools drew much favorable comment.

Some of those at the luncheon session, which was attended by representatives of organizations and interests throughout the city, admitted after looking at the camping pictures that they had come to the meeting opposed to the idea and had "changed their minds" after seeing the films and hearing the reports of those in charge of the school camping programs.

In outlining the suggested program for Torrance sixth graders, Mrs. Wright reported that the Torrance School Board had an opportunity to join with the Culver City and Paramount school districts in leasing the camping facilities at Camp Joseph in the Santa Monica Mountains. The camp is used during the summer vacation months by the Boy Scouts. The opportunity of joining in this program with the other two school districts is open for only a short time and may not be available again, she said.

Under the plan, the Torrance school district would contribute \$4500 from school operating funds, which would cover the cost of the facilities and transportation. Families of sixth grade pupils would pay for the food and cooks, totaling \$9 to \$25 per pupil. Children, whose families could not provide the cost for food, would be sponsored by service clubs, the P.T.A. or other means, it was emphasized; as the plan called for every sixth grade boy and girl in the Torrance school system to attend.

providing permission was given by the parent or guardian. It was also suggested that funds for attending camp be raised as a class room project extending over the school year.

"Does the week in camp for sixth graders, outweigh the importance of construction of cafeterias and other projects?" asked John Melville.

A number of other inquiries along this line, prompted the explanation by school board officers that the camping activities would be financed out of operating funds, whereas the construction of cafeterias are paid out of bond monies. It was admitted, however, that funds from the operating account could be invested in school facilities and buildings.

"We should remember," Superintendent of Schools, J. H. Hull said, "that we are discussing the expenditure of only \$5000 and not \$120,000, which are two entirely different things."

Earl W. Eckert, principal of Torrance Junior High, reported that a recent survey of 413 junior high students revealed only 165 of them had had any camping experience and only about 60 per cent of them could swim. Colored slides of Camp Joseph taken by Dr. Wood during a recent visit by board members revealed a good swimming pool, where lessons in swimming could be given.

H. F. Ulbright complimented the board members for the high esteem in which they are held in the community but warned that the camping idea was not popular and advised against its adoption. Ulbright, who had been asked to attend the session to advise the members on enlarging the facilities and studies of the printing department, recommended continuing the present facilities and limited program. Ulbright is proprietor of the Automatic Printing Co.

At the close of the three hour discussion, Moderator Wright said that no decision would be made by the board for a few days.

"We are gratified with the number of non-employers who have joined in this movement in order to do their share in helping to bring about permanent labor peace in the Harbor Area, ending the strife which has dealt such a severe blow to the economy of the various communities for years," Selover said. "Some have made confidential donations beyond membership in order to assist in the expense of initial organization."

The executive secretary continued: "Non-union store owners are joining because they realize the importance to them of stable and harmonious labor relations in the whole area." There is no obligation on the part of a member to negotiate a union contract, he pointed out, as his status remains autonomous in that regard.

Those desiring associate memberships have been asked to contact the Employers' Council office at 1524 Cravens avenue, Torrance.

Street Paving Bids Accepted

The Warren Southwest Company, street paving contractors, were the low bidders on the two street resurfacing jobs, according to figures read by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett at Tuesday night's City Council meeting.

The company's bid of \$13,370 for paving of Sepulveda boulevard, adjacent to the Kettler Knolls district between Narbonne avenue and the Santa Fe Tracks, was accepted by the City Council on motion of Nick Draie, councilman. The bid must be approved by the State Highway Commission in Sacramento before the bid can be awarded, according to City Manager, George Stevens.

Another bid for the paving of Hawthorne boulevard between Huntington street and 190 street was accepted by the council. No state action is necessary on this job, Stevens said.



STUDY NATURE . . . Alan Rainwater and Ann Louis Murray, two fifth grade students in Miss Elizabeth Spencer's class at Torrance Elementary School remove cocoons from "mulberry" trees. The class is studying the silk producing process by raising silkworms.—Herald Photo.

Silkworms Well-nigh Outnumber Bookworms

Silkworms are beginning to outnumber bookworms at Torrance Elementary School — at least in Miss Elizabeth Spencer's fifth grade classrooms.

Following the modern educational theory that children can best be taught by supplementing their three R's with a first hand observation of nature at work the teacher has undertaken a project to produce silk.

The students witness the cycle of the silkworm from the time it is a moth and lays its eggs through the period in which the eggs hatch into worms and then spin a cocoon about themselves, again turn into a moth and eat their way out of the cocoon.

The cocoon of the silkworm is the source of the silk of commerce.

The pupils are required to write papers on what they have learned about the silkworm.

Writes Suzanne Brown: "The caterpillar is one-half to one-eighth of an inch long when hatched. He is black and fuzzy. He soon loses his fuzzy." Raymond Parent writes that "The silkworms were hatched from tiny eggs, about the size of a turnip seed."

In the last paragraph of his paper on the caterpillar Donald Adamson noted that, "When it gets ready to loose its old skin it breaks at the nose and works down each section and casts off at the other end."

FESTIVAL DAYS

Beginning with a city-wide sale event next Thursday, May 19, stores and streets will be decorated for the Annual Festival Days, a nine-day bargain event, according to Paul Diamond, president of the Retail Merchants Division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

No Law Against 'Legal' Burning Says Attorney

Though restrained somewhat by a court order, the City of Torrance will continue to burn at the city dump, following a recent ruling by City Attorney C. Douglass Smith.

Smith avers that the Superior Court order served on the city in the latter part of April does not prevent the city from burning at the Plaza Del Amo and Lincoln avenue dump. It means, he claims, that the city must not contaminate the air with noxious or poisonous fumes.

Present burning, chiefly paper, does not produce these fumes, Smith claims, and is therefore not prohibited by the action, instigated by the County Air Pollution Control.

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